

## Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

STR-08 AGR-20 IGA-02 NIC-01 DRC-01 /225 W  
----- 090105

R 261800Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5539

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, ECON, HON

SUBJECT: DELAYED ARRIVAL OF CUBAN SUGAR

1. SUMMARY: GOH IS BEING INCREASINGLY CRITICISED FOR SHARP SUGAR SHORTAGE. CUBAN SUGAR HAS STILL NOT BEEN SHIPPED. END SUMMARY.

2. WITH PASSAGE OF SUCCEEDING WEEKS IT IS BECOMING CLEAR THAT GOH PURCHASE OF 10,000 TONS OF CUBAN SUGAR WILL HAVE LITTLE IMPACT ON ALLEVIATING SHARP SHORTAGES IN THIS FIELD. CUBAN SUGAR HAS STILL NOT ARRIVED, STOCKS ARE DEPLETED, AND LOCAL PRICES (ACCORDING TO NEWS-PAPERS)

HAVE RISEN FROM 23 TO 35 CENTAVOS PER POUND. PUBLIC DISSATISFACTION IS

ACUTE, AND PRESS IS ATTACKING GOH ALMOST DAILY.

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3. SUGAR WAS SCHEDULED TO BE DELIVERED AROUND OCTOBER 12-15, BUT IS

STILL IN HAVANA, LOADED ON CUBAN FREIGHTER "GONZALEZ LAINEZ." NATIONAL

DEVELOPMENT BANK OFFICIALS ATTRIBUTE DELAY TO BREAKDOWN OF SHIP'S  
ENGINES AND NEED FOR EXTENSIVE REPAIRS. OFFICIALS STATE SHIP WILL  
ARRIVE AT "END OF OCTOBER."

4. LOCAL SUGAR MANUFACTURER INFORMS US, HOWEVER, TROUBLE IS DUE TO  
IRREGULARITY OF INSTRUMENT OF PAYMENT OFFERED BY NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
BANK. HE SAID THAT GOH WAS HAVING TO PAY DEMURRAGE OF 5,000 DOLLARS  
PER DAY ON LOADED FREIGHTER. THIS REPORT WAS PICKED UP IN TODAY'S  
CRONISTA, WHICH CLAIMS THAT DEMURRAGE COSTS TO DATE HAVE RUN TO 70  
THOUSAND DOLLARS. CRONISTA ALSO CLAIMED THAT PRICE OF SUGAR WOULD  
HAVE BEEN BETTER, "BUT GOVERNMENT OF FIDEL CASTRO PREFERRED GOOD  
COMMISSION FOR COMMUNIST PARTY AT COST OF MONEY OF HONDURAN PEOPLE."

5. COMMENT: SUGAR HARVEST IN SOUTH NORMALLY BEGINS IN EARLY TO MID-  
NOVEMBER, BUT MAY BE DELAYED UP TO TWO WEEKS THIS YEAR BECAUSE OF  
HEAVY RAINS. EVEN WITH THIS POSTPONEMENT, CUBAN SUGAR WILL HAVE HAD  
MINIMAL IMPACT ON THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL SHORTAGE IF IT ONLY GETS HERE  
BY FIRST OF NOVEMBER. MEANWHILE, ABOVE PRIVATE SOURCE TELLS US THAT  
SOME QUANTITIES OF SUGAR ARE ENTERING COUNTRY ILLEGALLY FROM  
NICARAGUA AND GUATEMALA. MUCH OF SUGAR VIA GUATEMALA IS FROM  
SALVADOR.  
SANCHEZ

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOOD SHORTAGE, SUGAR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973TEGUCI04028  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** TEGUCIGALPA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DELAYED ARRIVAL OF CUBAN SUGAR  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ETRD, ECON, HO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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